Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 30, page 7, as follows:

--Representative methods that use viral vectors include those using viral vectors such as recombinant adenovirus, retrovirus and the like. More specifically, the gene of interest can be introduced into a DNA or RNA virus such as detoxified retrovirus, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, herpes virus, vaccinia virus, poxvirus, poliovirus, Sindbis virus, Sendai virus, SV40, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and the like, which is then infected to the cell to introduce the gene into the cell.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 11, page 9, as follows:

--Moreover, the therapeutic agent of this invention can be applied not only to patients with severe cardiomyopathy but also to patients with progressive mild cardiomyopathy. It is applicable to patients ~~of myocardiopathy like~~ with a cardiac muscle disorder such as angina pectoris and heart failure as well.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 18, page 11, as follows:

--10 mg Dried lipid (a 1:4.8:2 mixture of phosphatidyl serine, phosphatidyl choline and cholesterol) and 200 μl ~~balanced salt~~ isotonic solution (137 μM NaCl, 5.4 μM KCl, 10 μM Tris-HCl; pH7.6) containing HGF gene (100 μg)-HMG1 (high mobility group 1 nuclear protein, 25 μg) was mixed and ,by stirring vigorously with ultrasonication, liposomes were formed. Purified Sendai virus (Z strain) was irradiated with UV (110erg/mm^2/sec) for 3 minutes. Liposome suspension was mixed with Sendai virus (HVJ), heated at 4°C for 10 minutes, and then heated at 37°C for 30 minutes. Free HVJ was discarded and thus obtained HVJ liposome agent.--

Please amend the paragraph starting at line 4, page 12, as follows:

--~~Luciferase~~ Liposome agent was injected into the abdominal lateral cardiac muscle of the heart of myocardiopathy hamsters (12 weeks old, 6 animals per group). A group of myocardiopathy hamsters (12 weeks old, 6 animals per group) to which liposome agent containing control vectors was injected in the same manner was used as the control and untreated myocardiopathy hamsters (6 animals per group) were used as the untreated group. Then liposome agents were injected once each week for 8 times. 8 weeks later, density of blood capillary in the cardiac muscle of the heart of the 20 week old myocardiopathy hamsters was measured by ALP staining, and bloodflow was evaluated by the LDI score. After euthanization of the hamsters, the heart was extirpated and after Masson staining, distribution density of fibrosis was measured by computer analysis.--